



BOB RILEY
Governor

Alabama Medicaid Agency

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CAROL A. HERRMANN, MPH
Commissioner

September 21, 2004

Dear Provider:

I am pleased to send you an enrollment packet for the “new and improved” Patient 1st Program slated to begin January 1, 2005 in your area. I am excited about the steps that have been taken to build upon the successes of the previous program to establish a more accountable and cost effective model. The success of the Patient 1st Program relies on provider commitment. Changes to the program are based on lessons learned and input from the Patient 1st Advisory Workgroup. The Workgroup has been instrumental in helping Agency staff identify and resolve program concerns.

Highlights of the new program include:

- **Case Management Building Blocks** – The monthly case management fee can vary from \$0 to \$2.60 per enrollee based upon the program requirements a primary medical provider (PMP) contractually is willing to meet. Additionally, providers will receive a case management fee for all patients assigned to a panel. The last page of the contract details the case management components.
- **Performance Based Payments** – The Agency intends to share savings generated through the program to those PMPs meeting performance goals.
- **Program Enhancements** – The Agency will offer PMPs the opportunity to utilize in-home monitoring equipment for certain patients at no charge to the PMP or the patient. This technology allows patients to be monitored at home with an alert system designed to let the PMP know of a potential problem prior to it becoming critical.

As you review the enclosed contract document you will see that it has changed significantly from the previous agreement. Many of the changes are required to comply with specific CMS requirements while others reflect our ongoing commitment to quality patient care. A consistent method of reporting provider arrangements for EPSDT and hospital admitting privileges have been added as well

A dedicated Patient 1st web page has been added to the Agency’s website (www.medicaid.state.al.us). It contains the actual waiver document, the manual, provider application, implementation schedule and an overview of the program. As updates are made to the program, the information will be posted on the website. A conference call to respond to your questions will be held on October 7, 2004. Providers or their staff may call in at that time to receive further assistance. Please contact Paige Clark at (334) 242-5148 or by e-mail at pclark@medicaid.state.al.us to obtain the necessary phone number and pass code to access this call. Conference call information will also be posted on the website. Also, Medicaid staff is available to meet one-on-one with providers or provider groups to address questions about enrollment or the Patient 1st Program.

In order to meet the implementation schedule of January 1, 2005 for your area, your contract must be returned to EDS by October 22, 2004. It is anticipated that patients will be enrolled and sent their assignment letter around November 6, 2004. At that time you will also be receiving a listing of patients assigned to your panel. Please note that you may enroll at this time for all counties that you want to serve, even if that county is not slated to begin until a later date.

Our Mission - to provide an efficient and effective system of financing health care for our beneficiaries.

Contact Information:

Program Questions:

Paige Clark	(334) 242-5148
Gloria Wright	(334) 353-5907
Mary Timmerman	(334) 242-5014
Kim Davis-Allen	(334) 242-5011
EDS Provider Enrollment	(888) 223-3630

To schedule an On Site Visit:

Nancy Rawlinson	(334) 353-5203
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Thank you again for your participation and commitment.

Sincerely,

Kim B. Davis-Allen
Director, Medical Services Division

ENCLOSURES:

Application and Contract
Patient 1st Manual